

DATE: January 26, 1973

TO : Dean Rich

FROM : Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics

SUBJECT: Genetics Center Application

Although this is described as a "Genetics Center" I hope it will not be confused with enterprises like the Cancer or Cardiovascular Centers. No construction funds are in question. No basic reorganizations of departmental activities are involved. It would be more properly described as a program project effort involving the departments of genetics and pediatrics except that the funding within NIGMS happens to be labelled "Genetics Centers".

The funds that have been earmarked for grants of this kind are in some part a consequence of testimony that I gave before the House Appropriations Committee a couple of years ago and for other reasons as well perhaps as this one, I have some optimism that it may receive a favorable hearing from the institute. There will, however, be the customary study section review of the proposal. The importance of this kind of funding for the sustenance of research programs in our two departments is, of course, self-evident.

We anticipate no new faculty on the basis of the funding now requested, although it is conceivable, although hardly likely, that friendlier breezes in the future may be able to blow such opportunities our way. Correspondingly the obligations that are undertaken here are of the same texture as would be for a small group of research grants. Realistically I would expect there to be some difficult negotiations about just which of the projects are and are not to be approved but I am sure that we can work this out to at least some advantage if not universal satisfaction by informal discussions between the two departments and particularly the individuals named as "Associate Project Directors".